The Deplorable CASE

OF THE

Poor Sufferers, by that Army Disbanded by the Four Commissioners, in the Year 1679.

WHich is the said Case, Condition and Cry of many Fatherless and Widows, and many who are sadly distressed in Prison; with many others who are in great Misery, and under very commiserating Circumstances, being ready to perish for want of that Money which is due unto them, upon Disbanding the Army, which was Raised by Act of Parliament in 1677, for an Actual War (as by the Act appears) against the *French* King; And after the Treaty at *Nimeguen*, (being sent for Over) was Disbanded by another Act of Parliament in 1679, by Colonel *John Birch*, Colonel *Roger Whitley*, and others, Commissioners, who (upon stating the Accompts) gave Debentures, and (thereby) the Lords Commissioners of His Majesties Treasury gave Orders on the Exchequer (being enjoined thereunto by the said last Act) for Payment thereof: But the Money given by Act of Parliament (by reason of paying Interest and Gratuities to the Soldiers according to the said Act) falling short what was due, some were paid, and others who had as much Right were not paid.

It is humbly offered to Consideration as followeth.

First, *That this is a Debt occasioned by Act of Parliament, and had there been Money enough raised by the Disbanding Act, it had been paid; and it is not to be doubted in the least, but the Honour and Wisdom of Parliament will pay what is the Kingdoms Debt, that so for the future there may be Encouragement given for Credit on the like Account if Occasion shall require.*

Secondly, *Being some have been paid already, it's humbly hoped it will be esteemed but equal Justice to pay others who have as much Right, and have had Debentures, and Orders given them, by the same Authority as others received their Principal and Interest, upon the Credit of that Act for Disbanding.*

Thirdly, *If a way was endeavoured the last Parliament to pay Widows and Orphans what is due to them from the* Chamber of London, *It is humbly hoped that this Honourable Parliament will not be less kind to the Concerned in this Case, but first to find out some way (in this sad and direful Condition) to pay what is the Kingdoms Debt, for want whereof several have already, and many more are like to perish.*

Fourthly, *And in regard the Money upon the Disbanding Act was raised by a Land Tax, and fell short to answer the End thereof, It is most humbly submitted to Consideration, Whether it may not be raised so again; And then it's certain (by the Report made by a Committee the first Session of last Parliament, there being but* 108588 l. *due, and a Resolve of the House,* (Nemine Contradicente) *upon reading the Report, to take it into Consideration next Sitting after the Recess*) *that* 4 d. per Pound *for a Year on Land, to be paid* 1 d. *Quarterly; and* 2 s. *on* 100 l. *Stock to be paid* 6 d. *Quarterly, will pay it. But if it be not thought convenient to raise it this way, Then a reasonable Imposition on Foreign Iron, Salt, Oils, Sope,* Drugs, Raisins, Indico, *and* Dying Wood, *for two Years will do it; And if any thing be over, it may be paid to the KING.*

(35.)

And now, with grief of Heart, having shewed the misery of the Concerned herein; the Cause of it, for want of raising Money enough on the Disbanding Act, and the means (with all humble Submission) how to help them:

Your Compassion, and utmost Assistance herein, Is humbly prayed by the Concerned, that thereby they may be Relieved, and kept from utter Ruin; And so they shall be ever bound to pray for your Honours Health and Prosperity, &c.